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Press Release

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Sacramento Guitar Society Offers FREE Youth Group Guitar Classes at Five Sacramento Public Libraries

Sacramento Guitar Society fills the void of music education in schools by offering free, after-school Guitar “Struminars” for youth ages 8-18 at five public libraries – thanks to its members, donors, and the California Arts Council’s Youth Arts Action Grant Program

SACRAMENTO, CA – The [Sacramento Guitar Society](http://www.SacramentoGuitarSociety.org) announces its “[Strum for Fun](#)” group guitar lessons at five (5) public libraries in Sacramento County with grant proceeds from the California Arts Council’s Youth Arts Action Program. The Sacramento Guitar Society will use the funds received from this grant, plus an equal match from the organization’s donors and members, to pay local guitar teachers to teach at the selected libraries.

These youth-led, walk-in “Struminars” are a perfect place for young library patrons ages 8 to 18 to learn their favorite songs each week. The focus is on having fun and learning to play the guitar while meeting others with the same interest. No pre-registration is required. Students are encouraged to bring their own guitars, but loaner guitars will be available to those who do not have one of their own.

The free sessions are offered weekly from September 2019 thru May 2020 at the following libraries:

1. **Arcade Library**, 2443 Marconi Ave - *Wednesdays @ 4 pm beginning September 18*
2. **M L King Library**, 7340 24th Street Bypass - *Tuesdays @ 4 pm beginning September 17*
3. **North Natomas Library**, 4660 Via Ignoglia - *Tuesdays @ 3:30 pm beginning September 10*
4. **Valley Hi Library**, 7400 Imagination Parkway - *Thursdays @ 5 pm beginning September 12*
5. **Carmichael Library**, 5605 Marconi Ave - *Wednesdays @ 3:30 pm beginning September 11*

“Music education is not just about learning to play the instrument; it is a critical component to a well-rounded education, providing students with analytical skills that will last them a lifetime. Study after study has proven this connection and we, at the Sacramento Guitar Society, want to bring equity and access to learning to play the guitar available at no cost to students from socioeconomically disadvantaged backgrounds. This program fulfills one significant part of our mission to provide educational opportunities for everyone, regardless of their income or that of their family’s” - Lili Williams, Grant Writer & Former President, Sacramento Guitar Society.

California Art Council's Youth Arts Action Grant program supports projects for youth from infancy through age 24 that operate outside of school time, in artistic venues and community settings as well as on school sites. This program encourages relevant, dynamic, and innovative community building and learning through youth-focused arts and culture projects.

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The Sacramento Guitar Society's mission is to *promote, share, and celebrate the art of the guitar and its music by providing education and performance opportunities to people of diverse cultures, ages, abilities, and economic means*. The Society operates to raise awareness and celebrate the richness and diversity of the guitar and its music through monthly meetings, concerts and workshops, special presentations, community outreach and community service. E.I.D. 59-3777305 – Learn more at www.SacGuitarSociety.org

The mission of the California Arts Council, a state agency, is to advance California through the arts and creativity. The Council is committed to building public will and resources for the arts; fostering accessible arts initiatives that reflect contributions from all of California's diverse populations; serving as a thought leader and champion for the arts; and providing effective and relevant programs and services. To view a complete listing of all Youth Arts Action grantees, visit http://arts.ca.gov/programs/program_files/1819/CurrentGrantees/FY18-19_Project_Descriptions_YAA.pdf.

Members of the California Arts Council include: Chair Nashormeh Lindo, Vice Chair Larry Baza, Juan Devis, Jodie Evans, Kathleen Gallegos, Jaime Galli, Donn K. Harris, and Louise McGuinness. Learn more at www.arts.ca.gov.